difficulty Mr. Sotheran applied to me; and feeling that it was much to be regretted that such beautiful and accurate plates should be lost to science, and considering that such minutely accurate and detailed figures would not require to be accompanied by a description, I agreed to add a few lines of text to each Plate, containing first the original name that Mr. Bell placed upon them, then the name used in the Museum Catalogue of Tortoises, so as to bring the nomenclature to the level of our present knowledge of these animals, at the same time referring to a work in which the synonymy of the species is to be found. I have also added a few lines on the habits and manners of the species from works of authors who have had the opportunity of observing them in their native country.

Many of the specimens figured and the rest of Mr. Bell's Collection of Reptiles are now to be found in the Anatomical and Zoological Museum at Cambridge.

JOHN EDWARD GRAY.

British Museum,
November 20th, 1871.

TORTOISES, TERRAPINS, AND TURTLES.

1. TESTUDO TABULATA, *Walbaum.*

Tab. I. & II.

Testudo tabulata, Gray, Cat. Sh. Rept. Suppl. p. 4.

Hab. Central America and larger West-India Islands.

2. TESTUDO CARBONARIA, *Spix.*

Tab. III. & IV., and Tab. V. (var.).

Testudo tabulata, var., Gray, Cat. Sh. Rept. Suppl. p. 4.

Hab. Tropical America and larger West-India Islands.

This is a very variable species. The males are generally contracted on the sides and very concave beneath, which has caused them to be regarded as a distinct species. This Tortoise sometimes has an exceedingly thick and heavy case, raised beneath each of the plates so as to give a considerable degree of elevation to each dorsal plate. (See Tab. III.)

3. TESTUDO INDICA, *Bell.*

Tab. VI. (young).

Testudo elephantopus, Gray, Cat. Sh. Rept. Suppl. p. 5.

Hab. Galapagos Islands; Ecuador; west coast of Tropical America.

According to Mr. Blyth, this Tortoise has been introduced, and breeds and multiplies in Jamaica and other West-India Islands.